

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A system for optically inspecting and evaluating a sample, the system comprising:

a concave spherical mirror positioned to collect light reflected from a measurement spot on the sample surface; [[and]]

a convex spherical mirror positioned to receive and collimate the light collected by the concave spherical mirror with the convex and concave spherical mirrors positioned to be mutually non-obscuring and wherein the concave spherical mirror is fabricated as an off-axis section of a first spherical mirror and the convex spherical mirror is fabricated as an off-axis section of a second spherical mirror with the concave and convex spherical mirrors positioned to be substantially monocentric; and
an aperture stop located near one of the mirrors.

Claim 2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) A system for optically inspecting and evaluating a sample, the system comprising:

a concave spherical mirror positioned to project a probe beam onto the sample surface; [[and]]

a convex spherical mirror positioned to redirect the probe beam towards the concave spherical mirror, with the convex and concave spherical mirrors positioned to be mutually non-obscuring and wherein the concave spherical mirror is fabricated as an off-axis section of a first spherical mirror and the convex spherical mirror is fabricated as an off-axis section of a second spherical mirror with the concave and convex spherical mirrors positioned to be substantially monocentric; and
an aperture stop located near one of the mirrors.

Claim 4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) A system for optically inspecting and evaluating a sample, the system comprising:

a concave off-axis paraboloid mirror positioned to collect and to collimate diverging light reflected from a measurement spot on the sample surface at a substantially normal angle of reflection; [[and]]

a flat mirror positioned to receive and redirect the light collected by the paraboloid mirror with the paraboloid and flat mirrors positioned to be mutually non-obscuring;

a detector positioned to received light redirected by the flat mirror; and
an aperture stop located between the flat mirror and the detector and near the flat mirror.

6. (currently amended) A system for optically inspecting and evaluating a sample, the system comprising:

a concave off-axis paraboloid mirror positioned to ~~project~~ focus a probe beam onto the sample surface with a substantially normal angle of incidence; [[and]]

a flat mirror positioned to redirect the probe beam towards the paraboloid mirror, with the paraboloid and flat mirrors positioned to be mutually non-obscuring; and

an aperture stop located near to and in front of the flat mirror.

Claims 7-20. (cancelled)